

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH CENTER • 815 SECOND AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

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June 21, 1984 Telephone: (212) 867-8400

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MANDATORY KILL/SUBSTITUTE

(EDITORS: Because of a series of errors, the story that was sent to you on June 14 as DPS 84123, "Council Okays Talks on Church Center Sale", was an early, unedited version. It was incomplete and inaccurate in a number of particulars and MUST NOT BE USED. The following subs for that story. We apologize for any inconvenience.)

COUNCIL OKAYS TALKSON CHURCH CENTER SALE

DPS 84123

BURLINGAME, Calif. (DPS, June 14) — Following a lengthy debate and a few moments of silent prayer, the Executive Council, in its role as corporate board of directors, voted 21-13 to authorize negotiations for the sale of the Episcopal Church Center building in New York.

The resolution, which will remain in force for six months, came in response to a tentative offer from a tax-exempt organization of \$26 million in cash for the building. If the sale goes through, the Episcopal Church could continue to occupy 70 percent of the building for as long as four years after the closing, under a lease arrangement.

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DPS 84123(substitute)/2

The debate here was characterized by observers as among the most calmly reasoned and well thought-out in the Council's history, despite obviously strong emotions on both sides. In their statements many Council members appeared to be thinking out loud, sharing their thoughts in a struggle to arrive at the right decision.

Thomas Tisdale and Harry Havemeyer, members of both the Executive Council and Presiding Bishop John M. Allin's advisory committee on relocation of the Church Center, began the discussion with an explanation of the resolution as presented and an overview of its history.

In 1981, the Executive Council authorized the appointment of an advisory committee on relocation, and the 1982 General Convention passed a resolution requesting the Council to study relocation and report back to the 1985 Convention. The question of possible relocation of the Church Center had last been examined in 1973, when a study was done of other possible sites. The recommendation made at that time was that the Church Center remain where it is. Since then, real estate values in the Church Center area have escalated wildly, making the Center prime office space, and offers for the building have been frequent.

Most recently, the Church received the offer of \$26 million for the building, which has been appraised as being worth between \$21 and \$23 million. The amount by which the offer exceeds current market value was one of the factors in its consideration. Others were that it is for cash, that time would be allowed for transition, and that the organization involved is tax exempt. Although the delicacy of negotiations prevented the committee from revealing the organization's name, when queried by Council committee members indicated their belief that the Council and the Church at large would not find it objectionable.

In his delineation of the committee's approach, Havemeyer stated that the question was not just that of the best location, but of evaluating the present Episcopal Church Center in terms of its value, the financial worth of the building, and stewardship of it as an asset of the Church. He expressed a personal feeling of "a ripeness in time" to consider this.

Many Council members were distressed at the rapidity with which events had progressed and the lack of time available for consideration, but those involved in the negotiations explained that the offer was very recent and had to be acted upon immediately or the opportunity would be lost. There was also some question as to whether the Council had the authority to authorize the sale of the Church Center. This was answered that, acting as the board of directors of the Church's corporate entity, Council did indeed have authority to dispose of that asset.

Among those on Council who opposed the resolution, there was a concern about its impact on staff and program and about the amount of time and energy relocation would require from the next Presiding Bishop. Those in favor stressed the potential profit — estimated at \$1 million per year, net after rental and use fees — and a belief that the present building was inefficient and generally unsatisfactory. Many also felt that the sale would provide both the financial opportunity and sufficient time cushion to take into the location of the Episcopal Church Center. Some of the profits would support program while a small portion would be used for such a survey.

A question which engaged both sides — and to which General Convention will have to address itself — was that of where the Church Center would ultimately be located in the event of the building's sale. The Rev. Frederick Borsch spoke up to underline the symbolism involved in any action of this sort and added, "we can't look at it as a straight real estate deal, much as we might like to."

Speaking for the resolution, George McGonigle appealed to Council not to be captive to fears, and called on them "with the Lord's good guidance, to redefine ourselves" and William Baker noted that if fear of disruptiveness were a ruling principle, the decisions to ordain women and revise the prayer book would never have been made. However, Pamela Chinnis spoke for many when, noting the amount of time and energy the debate was consuming in Council, she questioned whether a decision to sell the building would make the Church so intent on internal affairs that it would fail to look around at larger issues. Borsch, in responding to Baker, added that he was in favor of disruption, but only on the right issues.

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As the debate was drawing to a close, it was Dixie Hutchinson who requested that time be set aside for prayer before the final vote "to give the Holy Spirit opportunity". She cited the prayer time taken before an important building decision by St. Luke's Church in her home state of Texas and by General Convention prior to the vote on ordination of women.

In the course of discussions which followed the approval of the resolution, the Rt. Rev. Walter Righter offered a resolution in support of the work of the advisory committee and requesting a report on relocation from them at the February Council meeting. This was passed unanimously.

The current Episcopal Church Center building was dedicated on April 29, 1963 and cost a total of \$5,900,000 for land, construction, furnishing and moving expenses. Designed to bring under one roof the expanding programs of what was then the National Council, the building was erected during the term of Presiding Bishop Arthur Lichtenberger. A committee formed by him in 1958 examined a number of possibilities, including moving into the new National Council of Churches building, renovating an existing building, and relocating to another area of the country, before deciding to remain in New York and build. At the time of the new Church Center's dedication the committee's head, the Rt. Rev. Frederick Warnecke, declared: "I think it is fair to say that this is one of the most efficient buildings in New York in its use of space and that there are a number of important innovations in it."

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DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

ENGAGES ANGLICAN MEET

DPS 84130

by LUCY GERMANY

The Texas Churchman

SEWANEE, Tenn. (DPS, June 21) -- There can be no development without transformation, and there can be no transformation without the church. A challenge which formed in the early hours of the Fifth Episcopal World Mission Conference became a text, surfacing throughout four days of intensive speechmaking, discussion and prayer. More than 200 bishops, priests and lay persons gathered on the mountain here June 12-16 to consider the plight of the developing world and their own place in it.

The conference, which was described by the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. John M. Allin, as "not a beginning but a continuation of strategy and planning" had vivid reminders of that task as leader after leader unfolded the tragedies of nations exploited, suffering, unable -- as one speaker put it -- "to be."

The conference, titled "The Church in Global Development," heard opening words from the Rt. Hon. Edward R. G. Heath, MP, former Prime Minister of Great Britain and a member of the Brandt Commission, an independent worldwide commission formed in 1978 to consider international development issues. Heath warned against taking emotional positions in matters involving world hunger, poverty and militarism. "Emotion makes us vulnerable. We must make an intellectual response so we can analyze," he said. He called this a time for "discovering what we are like-minded about rather than beating ourselves with our past sins." He said five summits had produced little except resolutions and that there was a need for creative solutions such as a new fund being developed by a study group through which transnational corporations would make project support available to developing countries.

The General Convention, in 1982, commended the "Brandt Report" to the Church as "a significant resource in understanding the

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dimensions of the effects of poverty on global security; the priority need for development aid; and the urgency of addressing such concerns as a just world economic order and the effects of military spending on poverty and hunger."

The Convention charged the Church's national hunger committee and the development office with carrying out the action — a sign of the importance placed on the issues raised, since not all such resolutions lay out specific task responsibilities.

Heath emphasized that the problem is "not just theirs. It is ours as well. If they don't survive, we don't." Work so far has been inadequate, he admitted, "There has been more materialism and profiteering than idealism and brotherhood."

Using "North" as a symbol for the developed world and "South" for developing nations, Heath traced some of the major disparities between the two: the North's \$5 billion in unused factory potential and its protectionist policies; the South's largely agricultural economy diminished in value in a falling worldwide commodities market, dependency on loans to provide basic necessities in the face of rising inflation, difficulties which are augmented by widespread suspicion of transnational corporations and fear of exploitation by Northern interests.

Against this pessimistic backdrop, African, Asian and Latin American leaders poured out their own messages of human misery in a world where "millions die from starvation while in America the affluent die from overeating." Dr. Clement Janda, general secretary of the Sudan Council of Churches, called for an end to "crisis management and pity. What we want is simple justice," he said, a theme which was underscored by the Rt. Rev. David Leake, Bishop of Northern Argentina who said "we must be doers not just donors."

In a dinner speech midway in the conference, the Rev. Canon Burgess Carr, Yale University professor and former general secretary of the All Africa Council of Churches, said "development is the new name for peace." Bold steps must be taken if we are to reverse Africa's problems. The Church must stand in solidarity for the oppressed, he said.

Solutions for the monumental problems which unfolded in the alternating presentation discussion format ranged from fund raising through "a voluntary ten percent cut in the income of all church members in the West," more private sector development projects that tackle ills long-range such as training for subsistence farmers, better programs for contraception -- described by Public Health Consultant Dr. Jean Morehead as "one of five major ways to save lives in the world," improved primary health care for villagers, and focus on improvement of drinking water supplies around the world. One telling statement was that millions of children being born today will never taste a drop of clean water in their lifetimes.

Problems of refugees were blamed on military arms dealing, which exacerbates local political power struggles when what are needed are amicable solutions based on an understanding of human brotherhood.

Speakers also included archbishops and bishops from Uganda, Liberia, Kenya, and the Philippines, as well as officials from Canada, West Germany, Tanzania, Costa Rica, and the United States. The Rt. Rev. G. Edward Haynsworth, executive for world mission at the Episcopal Church Center, summarized the church's task as one which embraces proclamation and service, relief and development. Strategies, projects and programs are necessary and so is justice.

At the conclusion of the program Allin stated: "No welfare program is worth the name unless it enables people to be participants and to know the joy of having their offerings accepted. If we can get the world to understand that...what a difference!"

In the task-orientation portion of the format, participants were asked to go home, make studies of their diocesan resources, determine who is doing what to encourage development projects, and, finally, to take a "next step" reflective of the ideals, vision and understanding of the task set forth by the conference.

In support of this, all major portions of the Conference were recorded on both video and audio tapes and work continues on developing audio-visual, broadcast, and printed resources to support the followup. The Overseas Development Office is reviewing plans for regional conferences to refine the understandings gained and explore additional actions.

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Sponsorship and staffing of the event were shared among the Hunger, Overseas Development, Overseas Ministries Public Issues and Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief offices of the Church Center along with the University of the South, the South American Mission Society, and the Episcopal Church Missionary Community.

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(EDITORS: Photographs from the Conference are being processed and will be sent in the next mailing (June 28). An announcement will be made of the availability of the different resources is also expected soon.)

COADJUTORS ELECTED IN
LEXINGTON, WESTERN MICH.

DPS 84131

NEW YORK (DPS, June 21) -- The first week of June saw the election of two new bishops coadjutor: The Very Rev. Don A. Wimberly in the Diocese of Lexington and the Rev. Howard S. Meeks in the Diocese of Western Michigan.

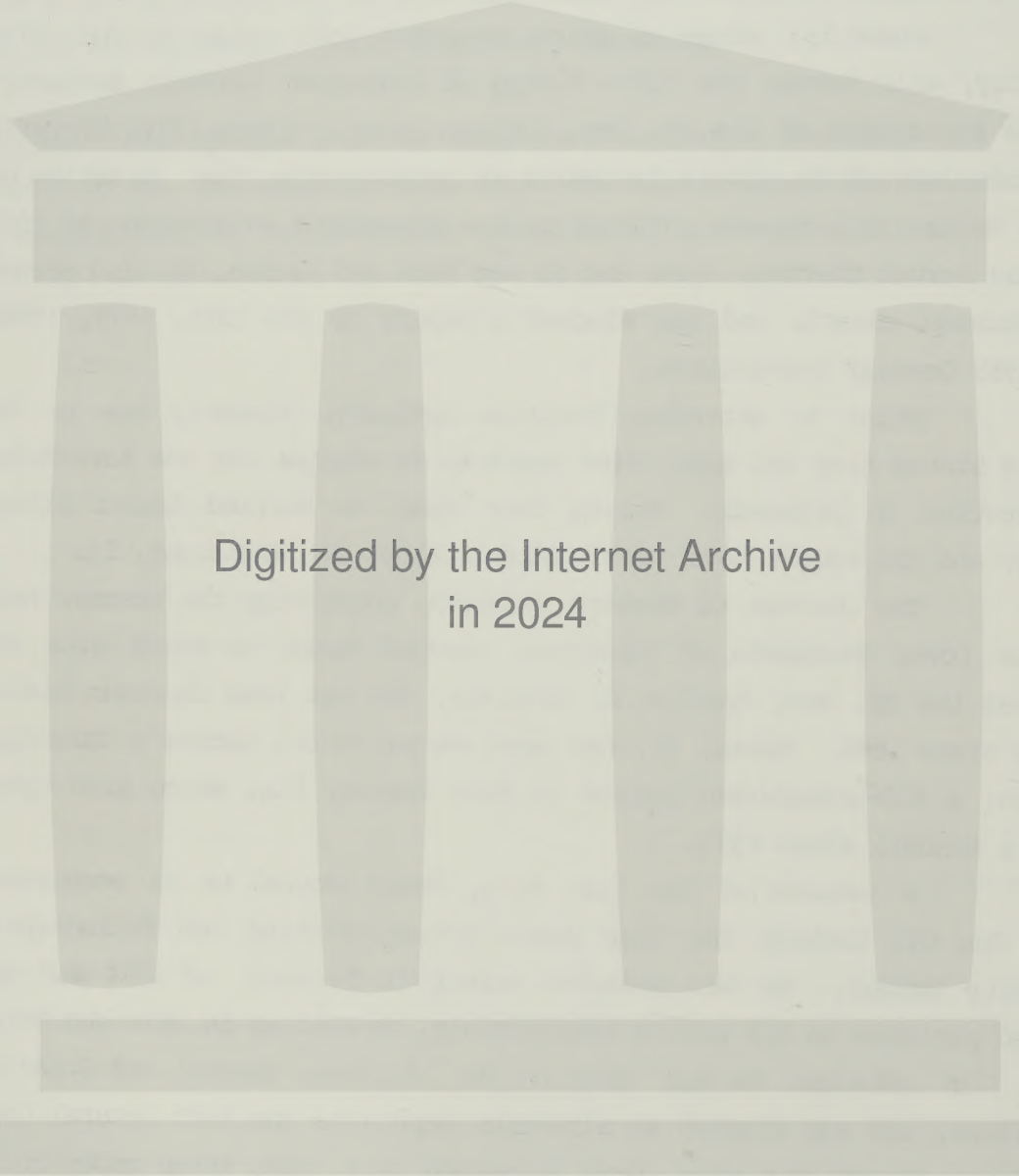
Wimberly, whose election occurred just prior to his 47th birthday, will become the fifth bishop of Lexington (eastern Kentucky) at the retirement of the Rt. Rev. Addison Hosea. Since 1978, Wimberly has been dean of St. John's Cathedral in Jacksonville, Fla. A native of Baton Rouge, La., he was ordained to the priesthood in December of 1971 and has served churches there and in New York and Kansas. He also served on diocesan council and was elected a deputy to the 1976, 1979, 1982, and 1985 General Conventions.

Prior to attending Virginia Seminary, Wimberly was in the United States Army and spent five years as an analyst for the Kerr-McGee Corporation in Oklahoma. During that time, he married Edwina Aileen Jones, and the couple have two children: Julie, 15, and Brent, 11.

The Diocese of Western Michigan, comprising the western half of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, elected Meeks to serve with and succeed the Rt. Rev. Charles E. Bennison, who has been diocesan bishop there since 1960. Meeks, 51, has been rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, a 600-communicant parish in Fort Pierce, Fla. which also operates a school, since 1973.

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Meeks worked as an accountant with Sun Oil Company for four years before entering the Philadelphia Divinity School. He was ordained priest in December of 1964 and has served parishes in his native Pennsylvania, as well as in Ohio and Delaware. In addition, he has been on the diocesan council and Standing Committee, and was elected an alternate deputy to the 1979 General Convention. He and his wife, Anne Sanderson Vail, have three grown children.

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EFFORTS OF ONE

SPARK THANK OFFERING

DPS 84132

INCLINE, Nev. (DPS, June 21) --The United Thank Offering is one of the most important mission resources of the Episcopal Church and is made even more important because of its intimate relationship with nearly every congregation in the country. Funds are contributed by individuals in thanksgiving, gathered in parish, diocesan and national celebrations and used to do work that is visible throughout the Church.

While the potential is great, it always needs a human spark.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church here -- long troubled by its meager annual contributions to the Offering -- caught the "spark" lighted by parishioner Deyann Davis and generated the largest contribution in the small congregation's history for the Offering.

The idea started when Deyann attended a diocesan UTO meeting and saw the exciting domestic and worldwide programs enabled by the UTO grants. Each year, more than \$2 million from the Offering aid social service ministries in the United States, building projects, transportation and education in Episcopal and other Anglican dioceses overseas and provide scholarship and pension support for women. She determined to share some of her enthusiasm with her congregation, which has monthly pot-luck dinners with programs that are well attended by members.

First she worked out the plan with the vestry and worship committee and publicized them in the monthly newsletter. The week before the Ingathering, she presented a slide-tape show of the Offering's work as the sermon during the parish's Sunday Eucharist. The Ingathering itself was a costume dinner with an international theme held in an elegant and festive style which befitted a thanksgiving celebration. "Giving thankfully should be fun," she asserted in her presentations.

Deyann created special crepes for the menu, and others baked and prepared their own gourmet dishes, making the occasion one of the most memorable gatherings of the year for Episcopalians on Lake Tahoe's north shore. Admission donations to the May 19 dinner generated over \$400.00, which was offered the following day in the Eucharist.

The UTO international costume celebration dinner at St. Patrick's is one occasion which is likely to become a tradition, based on comments heard and success of the project.

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MEDICAL MISSION

BACKS COMPANIONSHIP

DPS 84133

LEWISBURG, Pa. (DPS, June 21) -- Adding substance to their convention's theme of world mission, delegates to the 114th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, June 8 and 9, sent two medical doctors from Hershey to Bangladesh on Saturday, June 9, to assess the medical needs of this impoverished nation.

The Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania and the Dioceses of Dhaka, Bangladesh and North Kanto, Japan have entered into a companion relationship for mutual aid and understanding. One of the initial areas of assistance will be in the area of medical care for the people of Bangladesh. Dr. Thomas Leaman and Dr. Walter Kuhn, physicians at the Hershey Medical Center, along with a hospital administrator from Japan, will spend two weeks this month traveling throughout the country and will report back to the Rt. Rev. Charlie F. McNutt, Jr., Bishop, concerning needs, expectations, cost, numbers of volunteers needed and opportunities for aid.

A resolution passed by the delegates attending the two-day convention endorsed the companion diocese relationship and pledged support of the exchange of educational and medical personnel.

The Rt. Rev. David B. Birney, IV, Bishop of Idaho, presented the keynote address of the convention on Saturday morning. He chided the church on its timid image of itself and challenged the members to take action, in faith.

"To say no to mission is to go out of business, "he explained. "To say we don't have enough money and must take care of ourselves first, is to have lost sight of the very purpose of the church."

"We must see ourselves as ministering communities, "he concluded, rather than a group of people gathered around a minister.

Earlier in the convention, delegates passed a resolution calling on every Episcopal congregation to use its fullest resources to work for peace at home, communities, and the world. Presenting peace as an issue of highest priority, McNutt announced in his address that a diocesan-wide forum on peace will be held in October of 1984.

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EVANGELICAL AND CATHOLIC

MISSION MEETS, PLANS

DPS 84134

CHICAGO (DPS, June 21) -- Meeting here May 21 and 22, the National Council of the Evangelical and Catholic Mission took several steps aimed at increasing its visibility and effectiveness.

The council named the Rev. Canon Charles H. Osborn to the newly created post of executive director, effective immediately. Osborn has served since January, 1981 as executive secretary of the Mission.

He has also been editor of the organization's General Convention daily newsletter, Where It's At, for the past two Conventions and will serve again in that capacity at Anaheim in 1985. The paper itself, however, has undergone a change of name and will now be known as Episcopal Convention Monitor. This will permit the use of the Mission's acronym, ECM, as a means of identification and in parallel with the name of the paper; it is also, according to Osborn, intended to pacify outraged grammarians.

Another undertaking approved at the meeting was a project to publish papers setting forth the groups understanding of positions which the Episcopal Church has officially taken at General Conventions or through the conciliar actions of the House of Bishops. The papers will deal with 12 areas of concern and will include such subjects as "Non-Sexist Liturgies", "Confirmation", "Abortion", "1928 Prayer Book Text Usage", and "Homosexual Ordination". In speaking of the papers, Osborn maintained that, "There is wide-spread popular misunderstanding over what the Episcopal Church officially teaches with regard to these matters." He added that "The concern of ECM is to inform churchmen what the Church has, in fact, said about these matters, whether or not they accord with Catholic teaching or theology as ECM understands it." Preparation of the papers is currently underway, with publication anticipated by the end of this year.

Following the meeting, it was announced that the Evangelical and Catholic Mission will publish a booklet on the history of canon law and the status of the ancient canons in the Episcopal Church, together with examples of the application of canon law in specific cases. The

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author is the Rt. Rev. William C. Wantland, Bishop of Eau Claire and chairman of the Evangelical and Catholic Mission. The booklet is being done in conjunction with a course in canon law which Wantland will be teaching at Nashotah House in fall of 1984 and will include the essay "On Authority" by the Rt. Rev. Stanley Atkins, retired bishop of Eau Claire, chairman-emeritus of ECM, and current dean of Nashotah House.

The Evangelical and Catholic Mission describes itself as "an organization of bishops, clergy, religious and laity in the Episcopal Church whose mission is to recall the Episcopal Church to her Catholic heritage of biblical authority, apostolic ministry, Christian morality and Anglican spirituality." It has a monthly publication, The Evangelical Catholic, which devotes itself largely to "teaching" articles focusing on the Episcopal Church's Catholic heritage. It has recently added a book review editor, the Rev. Eugene D. Geromel.

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PENSIEVES

by the Ven. Erwin M. Soukup

Editor of Advance, Diocese of Chicago

DPS 84135

Note: The following items are for use by diocesan editors as fillers or commentary on the church scene. They may be used in part or in total. All that is asked is that a tag line be used: Pensieves, Chicago.

* You know how men and women become crooked. Like a river, they follow the line of least resistance.

* Then there's the mayor of the great little "Second City" who said, "If you moved everyone out (fired them) with a shady background, there wouldn't be anyone left to do the work." Makes you reflect on what kind of "work" is being done... and to whom.

* New organization: The Church of Monday Night Football. We discovered the match book that promotes it. For \$7 you can be a "Conversion Member". You get card, scroll, a decal, a T-shirt and a cap. Oxnard, Calif. is the home parish, and it accepts Master Charge and VISA. Wekidyounot.

* People who sing their own praises, we notice, are usually singing solo.

* We recently heard the best advice we ever heard: don't give it.

* As Christians we have been enjoined to love one another and make each other happy - even if it means leaving each other alone.

* A current ad in Your Church offers Lincoln Log church buildings. We don't mean like the ones we played with as children, but full-size. Practicality, availability, affordability are the watch-words for the supplier of these churches. (Complete with oil lamps and pump-organs?)

* The London Church Times reports that a local undertaker sent a letter to Dorset's vicar announcing the arrangements of a funeral and the selection of hymn: "Internal Father, Strong to Save", and "Amazing Grave." A rather sepulchrous service, it would seem.

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* But on the the brighter side: when the silver was stolen from St. John's Church, McLean, Va., the congregation turned to prayer. Lo and behold! The stolen silver turned up in a paper bag on the doorstep of nearby St. Mary's in Arlington.

* According to Ruth Leger Sivard, author of World Military and Social Expenditures, the current world military budget is \$660 billion. She also reported that in 1983 (the year proclaimed as the "Year of the Child") 30 children died each minute for want of food or inexpensive vaccines; 11 million children died before their first birthday for lack of nourishment; and 120 million children in the world have no schools to attend. Say something about priorities?

* Memory jostled while reading something else: "Westminster Abbey" is properly called the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter in Westminster.

* Then there is the man who always rides escalators in department stores rather than elevators because he wants to get the exercise.

* And finally, we heard of the local rector who received a note from a bride at whose marriage ceremony he had recently officiated: "I want to thank you, Father, for bringing my happiness to a conclusion."

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